

What is claimed is:

1. A strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, which can contain 1% by weight or more of γ -glutamylcysteine and contains 0.004-0.1% by weight of glutathione during 5 its logarithmic growth phase, when the strain is cultured in a medium in which a glutathione synthetase deficient strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* shows a slower growth rate than a wild strain.

10 2. The strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* according to claim 1, wherein the medium in which a glutathione synthetase deficient strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* shows a slower growth rate than a wild strain is a medium not containing glutathione or a medium not 15 containing glutathione, γ -glutamylcysteine, L-cysteine and cystine.

20 3. The strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* according to claim 2, wherein the medium is a minimal medium.

25 4. A strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, wherein glutathione synthetase encoded by a glutathione synthetase gene on a chromosome has deletion of a C- terminus region from an arginine residue at a position of 370.

5. Yeast extract produced by culturing a strain
of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* according to any one of
claims 1-4 in a suitable medium and utilizing the
5 obtained cells.

6. A method for breeding a strain of
Saccharomyces cerevisiae containing γ -glutamylcysteine,
comprising the steps of:

10 constructing recombinant strains of *Saccharomyces*
cerevisiae in which glutathione synthetase gene is
modified by a gene recombination technique and selecting
a recombinant strain that contains 0.004-0.1% by weight
of glutathione during its logarithmic growth phase when
15 the strain is cultured in a medium in which a
glutathione synthetase deficient strain of *Saccharomyces*
cerevisiae shows a slower growth rate than a wild strain.